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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 571
By Person

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Elizabeth Gill upon being crowned the Tennessee High School Rodeo Queen for 2001-2002.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those young people who through their remarkable efforts have distinguished themselves as outstanding Tennesseans of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such praiseworthy person is Elizabeth Gill who has been honored by the Tennessee High School Rodeo Association by being named the Tennessee High School Rodeo Queen for 2001-2002; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee High School Rodeo Association is part of the National High School Rodeo Association, which, consisting of over 12,000 members, is an international organization dedicated to the development of sportsmanship, horsemanship, and character in young people; and

WHEREAS, a junior at St. Mary's Episcopal School in Memphis, Lizzie has been riding horses her entire life and has participated in rodeo competitions for over six years; and

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WHEREAS, talented and skilled in rodeo techniques, she competes in four of the six girls' rodeo events: Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Breakaway Calf Roping, and Team Roping; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gill made an outstanding showing at Tennessee's High School Rodeo Queen competition in the Spring of 2001; excelling in Speech, Interview, Impromptu, Horsemanship, Appearance, and Written Test, she earned the highest score in all these areas of competition to capture the State Rodeo Queen title; and

WHEREAS, this extraordinary young woman competed against High School Rodeo Queens from thirty-nine states of the United States, four Provinces of Canada, and Australia at the National High School Rodeo Contest, held in Springfield, Illinois from July 20-31, 2001; and

WHEREAS, as a result of her hard work and dedication to excellence, Elizabeth Gill finished 2nd on the Written Test, and only one point behind the 1st Place winner, 3rd Place in the Speech contest, which was held in front of an audience of about 500 people, and 10th in total points; and

WHEREAS, at the National Competition, Lizzie was also the Reserve Champion in Pole Bending and ably represented Tennessee in other rodeo events; and

WHEREAS, during her reign as the 2001-2002 Tennessee High School Rodeo Queen, Ms. Gill plans to educate the public about the wholesomeness of rodeo as a sport and share the positive impact rodeo participation has had on her life; and

WHEREAS, we are confident that she will continue to represent the Tennessee High School Rodeo Association and the State of Tennessee with the utmost acumen, grace, and joy in all her regal endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Gill's significant achievements are a great source of pride for her parents, Ray and Betha Gill; her older brothers, Brown and York, who are competitive Team Ropers; her school; and her community; and

WHEREAS, Lizzie epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Ms. Gill for her remarkable achievements in the sport of rodeo; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Elizabeth Gill upon being crowned Tennessee High School Rodeo Queen for 2001-2002, commend her on her enthusiasm and persistence in rodeo competition, recognize her admirable performance at the National High School Rodeo Finals, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success and happiness during her reign.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.